

Cyclone Gabrielle updates

Message from the Mayor

As we continue to take steps to recovery, I am pleased that the Civil Defence Emergency Management Review is underway, with work currently focused on establishing a robust set of Terms of Reference.

I know this review is very important to our community, and there is a lot of thought going into how the community will have their voice heard through this process.

We are also very pleased with the progress being made on cleaning up silt around the district – the taskforce estimates that the 310 requests logged represents about 25 per cent of total silt to clean up. This is a very positive signal.

In terms of reconnecting our district and beyond, we are looking forward to Waka Kotahi completing the repairs to link us to Wairoa again. The delays on the bailey bridge across the Waikari River and the repairs to the Devil's Elbow have been disappointing.

This is still a very stressful time for people who have been affected and are uncertain about what their future holds. I strongly encourage residents to reach out to health providers if they need support. There are some contact details at the end of this update that may be helpful.



Kia Kaha
Sandra Hazlehurst



SILT

The taskforce managing silt recovery has been focusing on funding the project, organising local contractors to collect silt, establishing and managing silt deposit sites, working through regulatory and legislative requirements, and engaging with iwi, key stakeholders and the community. For silt collection please call **0800 108 838** and press '2' to request cyclone-related silt collection. Or [click here](#) for the online silt collection request form.



KEY STATS

310 jobs
RECEIVED
(up to 24 April)

APPROXIMATELY
165,000m³
OF SILT COLLECTED
(up to 24 April)

AROUND
900 truck
movements
PER DAY THIS WEEK
(17 April–21 April)

ZONING

Council is urging Government to work at pace on decisions regarding the future for our most impacted areas. The Government taskforce has committed to community consultation and Hastings District Council will be strongly involved in ensuring everyone in our community who wants to have input into these decisions get the opportunity to do so. For the government's latest information see over the page.



YELLOW STICKERED RATES REMISSION CHANGE

Council has reviewed its cyclone-related rates remissions process, acknowledging the current framework is resulting in inequities across some red and yellow stickered properties.



Under the new approach, though yellow stickered property owners are still required to apply for the remission, if the yellow sticker has been assigned to their main dwelling/building they will receive a remission for both the third and fourth quarter instalments in the 2022/23 rating year.

In instances where yellow stickered properties have already been assessed and approved for a fourth instalment remission, a remission for the third instalment will automatically be applied as well and any rates paid for this period reimbursed. Council is working through options for offering rates relief from 1 July 2023.

ROADS & BRIDGES

- The removal of the damaged pieces of the Redclyffe Bridge on Waiohiki Road began on Friday 21 April.
- Plan ahead for an overnight ROAD CLOSURE at the Waitangi Bridge on Wednesday 26 April, 8pm-5am for Waka Kotahi contractors to undertake debris clearing and bridge works. Please use an alternate route.
- Waka Kotahi will be undertaking strengthening work of the Esk River Bridge, north of the State Highway 5 Napier-Taupō turn-off, beginning Sunday night (30 April). These works will take approximately three weeks to complete with access for emergency services maintained at all times. Until that work's complete, the 30km/hr speed limit will remain in place.
- For the most up-to-date information on the repair status of Hastings District bridges see: www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/services/roads-and-streets/road-works





COMMUNITY HUBS

Community hubs remain a central location for support and information specific to the needs of their community.

Please see opening hours and upcoming meetings below.

Up to date community hub hours and meetings can be found online at www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/communityhubs

Pakowhai

Pakowhai Hall

Thursday 27 April, 12pm-6pm

Saturday 29 April, 9am-12pm

Bay View

King Georges Hall

Wednesday 26 April, 12pm-6pm

Sunday 30 April, 9am-12pm



Government Cyclone Recovery Unit information

Published Friday 21 April, 2023.

For the full release see www.civildefence.govt.nz

The Government continues to work closely with regions worst affected by the North Island floods and Cyclone Gabrielle in their recovery efforts. Government agencies, the Cyclone Recovery Unit and the Cyclone Recovery Taskforce continue to work closely with local authorities and communities across the motu.

Key points

SUPPORT TO COMMUNITIES

- There is a range of support still available for those affected by the floods, including community and provider support funds, plus a food fund for community providers to refill their stocks and support demand from flood-affected households. [Click here for a comprehensive list of social support.](#)
- The Temporary Accommodation Service continues to connect households in need with accessible accommodation while their home is repaired or rebuilt. [Click here for more details.](#)
- Te Whatu Ora is assisting people who have been displaced by the severe weather to get the healthcare support they need. Find out more [here](#).

MĀORI COMMUNITIES RESPONSE FUND

- Funded projects this week have included resource to secure staffing, storage and generators, project managers to spearhead recovery efforts and funds to secure independent insurance advocacy. For more information, [click here](#).

SUPPORT TO THE PRIMARY SECTOR

- MPI's Operation Muster has helped move more than 30,000 animals from cyclone-affected farms in the Hawke's Bay, while Operation Reach will continue aerial drops to properties in Tairāwhiti once culvert supplies arrive. MPI is maintaining contact with 33 farms in Tairāwhiti and 5 farms in Hawke's Bay where access is restricted. For more details of what the Government is doing to support the primary sector, [click here](#).

SUPPORT TO BUSINESS

- An additional \$25 million will support more businesses in the clean-up in regions affected by the cyclone – taking total support to more than \$75 million. Of the \$49.15 million committed to support small businesses, some \$33.42 million has been paid out, with \$19 million to Hawke's Bay and \$12m to Tairāwhiti. For more detail on support available to small business, [click here](#).

UPDATE FROM THE CYCLONE RECOVERY TASKFORCE

This week the Cyclone Recovery Taskforce continues to liaise with councils and insurance companies to confirm confidence levels around the risk status of areas.

We acknowledge the uncertainty and the impact that this has on people, and also the need to ensure that decisions are carefully thought through, supported by evidence, and informed by community engagement. We expect to have preliminary information to share by the end of this month.

The economic recovery and reinvestment for Hawke's Bay and Te Tairāwhiti is another current focus area for the Taskforce, which continues to work with central government, regional recovery groups, and relevant sectors including banking, on economic recovery plans.

WHERE TO GET HELP

Need to talk? - 1737

Youthline – text 234

Rural Support Trust – 0800 787 254

Lifeline – 0800 543 354

Healthline – 0800 611 116

Whatsup – 0800 942 8787 (1pm-11pm)

Anxiety NZ – 0800 ANXIETY

Depression Helpline – 0800 111 757

Suicide Crisis Helpline – 0508 828 865 or 0508 TAUTOKO

Alcohol Drug Helpline – 0800 787 797